



GET INVOLVED!

- Become an advocate to keep New Mexico's children safe.
- Become familiar with and support your local Children's Advocacy Center.
- Donate to the New Mexico Children's Alliance to support professional development training for child advocates from across the state.

New Mexico Children's Advocacy Centers are located throughout the state. Visit nmcacs.org for a current list and contact information.

NMCSAP

New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs
3909 Juan Tabo Blvd NE, Suite 6
Albuquerque, NM 87111

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(505) 883-8020

nmcacs.org

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NMCSAP

NEW MEXICO CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE Program Overview



Every person who knows or has reasonable suspicion that a child is being abused or neglected in New Mexico must report the matter immediately to the Children, Youth, and Families Department's Statewide Central Intake child abuse hotline, to law enforcement, or the appropriate tribal entity.

1-855-333-SAFE [7233] or #SAFE from a Cell Phone

The New Mexico Children's Alliance (NMCA)

is an accredited chapter of the National Children's Alliance. It is a resource for local communities and Children's Advocacy Centers throughout the state and helps to provide a coordinated approach to addressing child abuse issues. NMCA meets or exceeds all national standards.

Originally organized as the NM Children's Safehouse Network with three member programs in 1995, NMCA has been a program of the NM Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs (NMCSAP) since 2019.

Members are non-profit Children's Advocacy Centers throughout NM that coordinate multi-disciplinary teams investigating child abuse. NMCA members are also trusted members of state and local task forces and committees related to best practices in the field of child welfare and child abuse issues, offering training and education to allied professionals, policy and decision makers, and the community at large.

More info at nmcacs.org

Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs)

are where children are evaluated when an allegation has been made regarding the child experiencing abuse, neglect, or having witnessed violence against others. The child-focused environment and collaborative team approach reduces the trauma for children during the investigative process.

In New Mexico, the State Legislature passed the Children's Advocacy Centers Act in 2019. This legislation defines the duties of Children's Advocacy Centers and multi-disciplinary child abuse investigation teams.

Multi-Disciplinary Teams offer comprehensive services to children and their families. These teams bring together professionals from law enforcement, child protective services, medical, mental health, victim advocacy, and other agencies. Community professionals develop and use an investigation protocol adapted for their area to provide healing and justice for families affected by child abuse.

NMCA members and their affiliated multi-disciplinary teams receive specialized training to offer a coordinated response to child abuse including:

- Child forensic interviews
- Victim advocacy
- Mental health support
- Medical evaluation

Multi-disciplinary team partners collaborate with the Children's Advocacy Centers in an effort to:

- Track and review criminal cases related to child abuse
- Investigate and prosecute child abuse in a trauma-informed, child-focused manner

Partners include;

- Child protective services (CYFD and tribal social services)
- Law enforcement (city, county, state, federal, and tribal), and prosecutors